

## NOTES.

ON *PYRULA BENGALINA* OF GRATELOUP. (Read 8th November, 1907.)—Jean Pierre Silvestre de Grateloup wrote but a single descriptive paper upon recent shells. He was the author of a list of the land and fresh-water Mollusca of Dax in the South of France and of a classification of the Bullidæ, but the rest of his writings upon Mollusca had reference to fossil forms. They were mostly published in the Bulletin or Actes de la Société Linnéenne de Bordeaux. The shell which forms the subject of this note was described under the name of *Pyrula Bengalina* in vol. xi, p. 447, of the Actes, and figured on pl. iv, fig. 5, and as far as I can discover has only been referred to since by Kiener, Paetel,<sup>1</sup> and Tryon,<sup>2</sup> the last-mentioned author having given a reduced reproduction of the original figure and a very brief description founded upon Grateloup's diagnosis. He was at the time in doubt where to place it, and did not know to what genus it really belonged, but introduced it in his classification after *Hemifusus*, observing that it was evidently a monstrosity. In this, however, he was mistaken. It is not a monstrosity, but only the young state of the common *Pterocera bryonia*, as he<sup>3</sup> subsequently discovered, probably from Kiener's<sup>4</sup> statement and figure, or from the figures and observations given by Chemnitz (Conch. Cab., vol. x, pl. clix, figs. 1513-15). Figure 1513 represents a specimen about the same size as the shell described by Grateloup. Chemnitz was not deceived by the different aspect of this early stage of the shell from that of the adult, but rightly described it as the young of *bryonia*. The figs. 1513, 1514, 1515 in vol. x, and figs. 904, 905 in vol. iii depict three early growths of the species. Fig. 1512 represents a still later stage, just before the claws would commence to form. I have been induced to call attention to this subject as the British Museum has just acquired through Messrs. Sowerby & Fulton the actual types described and figured by Grateloup in the paper referred to above, and among them the *Pyrula Bengalina*. The only other new marine shell described in this paper is *Scalaria clementina* from Singapore and Manila, of which *S. trifasciata*, De Haan, and *latifasciata*, Sow. (Con. Icon., fig. 117a), are synonyms.

E. A. SMITH.

ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF *PETRICOLA PHOLADIFORMIS*, LAM. (Read 8th November, 1907.)—Mr. W. Crouch was the first to notice this species in England in July, 1890, at Burnham-on-Crouch. In April, 1896, Mr. J. E. Cooper found several valves at Shellness, near Sandwich, Kent, whilst at the same time I found it living abundantly at Herne Bay, Kent. Examples of this species from the three localities were exhibited before this Society in May, 1896.<sup>5</sup> This year, whilst on a visit to Suffolk, I obtained several examples from peat thrown up on the shore at

<sup>1</sup> Cat. Conch.-Samml., 1887, vol. i, p. 37, as a *Thatcheria*.

<sup>2</sup> Man. Conch., vol. iii, p. 113, pl. xlv, fig. 242.

<sup>3</sup> Op. cit., vol. vii, p. 124.

<sup>4</sup> Icon. Coq. viv. Pterocera, p. 4, pl. x, fig. 3.

<sup>5</sup> Proc. Malac. Soc., vol. ii (1896), pp. 134-5.

Dunwich. They were, of course, dead, but were still in their crypts. Almost at the same time I received a letter from Mr. A. Mayfield, of Mendlesham, stating that he had found odd valves of this species at Lowestoft and Felixstowe. Thinking that perhaps it might occur on the Lincolnshire coast, where the conditions are suitable, I wrote to Mr. C. S. Carter, of Louth, who most kindly sent me examples of the shell collected at Mablethorpe in 1900, and a specimen found in August, 1896, between Minster and Warden Point, Sheppey. He stated that the shell had been known on the Lincolnshire coast for twenty years, but that it had become more abundant during the last few years. In the *Journ. Roy. Micro. Soc.*, 1907, part 4, p. 416, quoting from *Zool. Anz.*, vol. xxxi, No. 7, pp. 268-70, it is stated that C. Boettger had found this species near Sylt and between the North Frisian Islands and the mainland, and that E. Wolf had also found it near the East Frisian Islands. It has also been recorded by MM. Dupuis & Putzeys from the coast of Belgium. It will thus be seen that this species has a far wider distribution than was formerly supposed, and that it must have been a member of our fauna for some little time.

A. S. KENNARD.

ON THE ORIGINAL DRAWINGS FOR THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE "HISTORIA NATURALIS TESTACEORUM BRITANNIÆ" OF E. M. DA COSTA, 1778. (*Read 8th November, 1907.*)—These were drawn and painted on seventeen sheets of vellum. Moses Harris was responsible for the sheet for pl. iii, which has his signature and the date November 24th, 1776, at the bottom left-hand corner. The sheets for the other sixteen plates bear the signature of Peter Brown, but no date. The former was and is fairly well known as an entomologist, and his "Aurelian or Natural History of English Insects" is still referred to. He was also the author of other works. The latter, as far as I know, was only responsible for one work, the "New Illustrations of Zoology," and this is not often seen. I do not think the engraver of these plates has been identified, and probably more engravers than one were employed, as plates viii, ix, x, xi, xv, and xvii were not reversed, as they should have been, and consequently the figures have come out sinistral. These plates with additions and deletions were afterwards re-engraved and used to illustrate Pulteney's "Dorsetshire Shells" in Hutchin's "History of Dorset," 1799. One figure appears on Da Costa's plates which was not on the originals, viz. fig. 7 of pl. vi, *Monodonta crassa* (Montfort) (*T. lineatus*, Da Costa), its place being taken by a figure of *Limnæa*, which appears on pl. v as fig. 17, the reversed view of this species originally drawn being deleted.

A. REYNELL.

*MITRA RECURVIROSTRIS*; NAME SUBSTITUTED FOR *M. RECURVA*, SOWERBY. (*Read 10th January, 1908.*)—By a curious oversight in the *Journal of the Linnean Society*, 1889 (vol. xx, p. 396, pl. xxv, fig. 7), I gave the name '*recurva*' to a striking form of *Mitra* received from the late V. de Robillard, of Mauritius, although the name had been used by Reeve for a very different species (*Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1845, p. 56) described and figured in the *Conchologia Iconica*, vol. ii, pl. xxxvi, fig. 297. I now propose to alter the name of the species to *M. recurvirostris*.

G. B. SOWERBY.

ON *ASTARTE MUTABILIS*, WITH REVERSED HINGE-DENTITION. (*Read 10th January, 1908.*)—The left valve of *Astarte mutabilis*, Searles Wood, from the Pliocene (Coralline Crag) of Suffolk, exhibited by me on January 10th, is very remarkable on account of having the hinge-dentition of the right valve. In other respects it is quite normal. As instances of